

AMENDMENT BY SUPERVISORS HILDA L. SOLIS  
AND DON KNABE

February 10, 2015

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY YOUTH JOBS PROGRAM / PARKS AFTER DARK**

The Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) has identified \$6.5 million to augment the County's Youth Jobs Program. This funding will allow approximately 1,500 CalWORKs teens to participate in paid work experience for 21 weeks.

In addition, since 2010, the Department of Parks and Recreation has operated the Parks After Dark Program. This Program engages at-risk youth in higher crime areas, providing the youth and their families with a range of positive recreational and educational activities in their communities. It plays an important part in reducing the likelihood of youth participating in at-risk behaviors.

The Parks After Dark Program has been very successful, resulting in high community participation, and decreased violent crime. A 2012 survey of participants found that 94% would participate in the program again, and 96% felt safe during the program. Serious and violent crimes in the communities surrounding the parks declined 40% in the first 3 years of the program.

The funding identified by DPSS and the resulting Youth Jobs, can be leveraged to augment the Parks After Dark Program.

**I, THEREFORE MOVE** that the Board of Supervisors direct the Director of Community and Senior Services to collaborate with the Director of Parks and Recreation, to utilize a portion of the \$6.5 million, for work on County programs and at County parks, including an expansion of the Parks After Dark Program in higher crime areas, by utilizing the participants in the Youth Job Program.

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HLS:JAB

**MOTION**

Solis	_____
Ridley-Thomas	_____
Kuehl	_____
Knabe	_____
Antonovich	_____